

Provisional Vital Statistics for March 2005

Live births decreased slightly in March as 6,795 Missouri babies were born compared with 6,873 one year earlier. However, cumulative births for the 3- and 12- month periods ending with March increased. For the first quarter of the year, births increased by 2.9 percent.

Deaths decreased for all three time periods shown below. For the 12- months ending with March, deaths decreased by 3.5 percent.

The **Natural increase** in March was 1,780 (6,795 births minus 5,015 deaths). The natural increase rose substantially for all three time periods shown below.

Marriages were virtually the same in March (2,046) as in the previous March (2,045). Cumulative marriages for the 3- and 12- month periods ending with March both show increases.

Dissolutions of marriage decreased for all three time periods shown below. For the 12 months ending with March, the marriage to divorce ration increased from 1.84 to 1.97.

Infant deaths increased for all three time periods. For the 12 months ending with March, the infant death rate increased from 7.5 to 7.7 per 1,000 live births.

PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR March 2005

| Item | <u>March</u> | | | | <u>Jan-Mar. cumulative</u> | | | | <u>12 months ending with March</u> | | | | |
|--|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>Number</u> | | <u>Rate*</u> | | <u>Number</u> | | <u>Rate*</u> | | <u>Number</u> | | <u>Rate*</u> | | |
| | <u>2004</u> | <u>2005</u> | <u>2004</u> | <u>2005</u> | <u>2004</u> | <u>2005</u> | <u>2004</u> | <u>2005</u> | <u>2004</u> | <u>2005</u> | <u>2003</u> | <u>2004</u> | <u>2005</u> |
| Live Births | 6,873 | 6,795 | 14.1 | 13.8 | 19,396 | 19,963 | 13.5 | 13.8 | 77,015 | 78,809 | 13.6 | 13.4 | 13.7 |
| Deaths | 5,851 | 5,015 | 12.0 | 10.2 | 17,338 | 15,385 | 12.1 | 10.6 | 55,256 | 53,312 | 10.1 | 9.6 | 9.2 |
| Natural increase | 1,022 | 1,780 | 2.1 | 3.6 | 2,058 | 4,578 | 1.4 | 3.2 | 21,759 | 25,497 | 3.5 | 3.8 | 4.4 |
| Marriages | 2,045 | 2,046 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 6,324 | 12,708 | 4.4 | 8.8 | 40,532 | 42,846 | 7.4 | 7.1 | 7.4 |
| Dissolutions | 1,757 | 1,540 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 5,149 | 5,023 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 22,030 | 21,793 | 4.0 | 3.8 | 3.8 |
| Infant deaths | 41 | 58 | 6.0 | 8.5 | 139 | 157 | 7.2 | 7.9 | 574 | 604 | 8.8 | 7.5 | 7.7 |
| Population base (in thousands) | ... | ... | 5,755 | 5,791 | ... | ... | 5,755 | 5,791 | ... | ... | 5,689 | 5,728 | 5,764 |

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Rates are adjusted to account for varying lengths of monthly reporting periods.

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